

Secretary for

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## California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Diego Region

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August 8, 2005

CERTIFIED RETURN RECEIPT MAIL 7004 2890 0002 6407 5442

Mr. Patrick A. Thomas, Director of Public Works City of Escondido 201 North Broadway Escondido, CA 92025

In reply refer to: POTW:01-1359.02:OTBRY

Dear Mr. Thomas:

TENTATIVE ORDER NO. R9-2005-0139; NPDES PERMIT NO. CA0109215; WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE CITY OF ESCONDIDO, INDUSTRIAL BRINE COLLECTION SYSTEM, DISCHARGE TO THE PACIFIC OCEAN VIA THE SAN ELIJO OCEAN OUTFALL, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Enclosed is a copy of tentative Order No. R9-2005-0139, National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit No. CA0109215, including a monitoring and reporting program and fact sheet which staff intends to present to the Regional Board for adoption at their regularly scheduled meeting on September 14, 2005.

The tentative Order is also available on the Regional Board's web site. The web site address is: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego</a>.

If adopted, tentative Order No. R9-2005-0139, NPDES Permit No. CA0109215, would establish waste discharge requirements for the discharge of brine wastewaters from industrial users to the City of Escondido's Industrial Brine Collection System (IBCS).

The City of Escondido proposes to construct the IBCS in two phases. Phase I of the IBCS is a 12-inch diameter pressure pipeline that will receive wastewater discharges from the *Palomar Energy Project* (PEP). The PEP is a 550-megawatt power plant being constructed by Palomar Energy, LLC, an entity of Sempra Energy. The PEP is located at a site approximately 0.9 miles north-northwest of HARRF. The PEP is a natural gas combined cycle power plant. The PEP intends to begin power generating testing operations in October 2005 using approximately 3.0 mgd to 5.3 mgd of HARRF recycled water for power plant operations.

The projected schedule for PEP power generating testing operations will coincide with the Discharger's proposed start-up of the IBCS, Phase I, system in October 2005. Phase I of the IBCS would receive an average flow of 1.0 mgd and a maximum flow of 1.4 mgd of cooling tower blowdown, evaporative cooler blowdown, heat recovery steam generator blowdown,

California Environmental Protection Agency

demineralization brine, and low volume waste streams from various floor drains throughout the facility from PEP.

Phase II of the IBCS will include brine pipelines that receive industrial brine wastewater flows of approximately 0.09 mgd of cooling tower blowdown and brine wastewaters from the following industrial facilities:

- 1. Boncor (0.02 mgd of water softening and regeneration wastewater),
- 2. Culligan (0.017 mgd of water softening and regeneration wastewater), and
- 3. Iceoplex (0.05 mgd of cooling tower blowdown, heat recovery generator blowdown, and demineralization brine wastewater).

The brine wastewaters from the IBCS will mix with effluent from the City of Escondido's Hale Avenue Resource Recovery Facility and be conveyed by the Escondido Land Outfall to the San Elijo Ocean Outfall, which discharges effluent to the Pacific Ocean.

The September 14, 2005 meeting will begin promptly at 9:00 am and will be held at the following location:

Regional Water Quality Control Board Regional Board Meeting Room 9174 Sky Park Court San Diego, California

Please review and comment on the revised tentative Order at your earliest convenience. It is recommended that written comments be submitted as soon as possible to enable staff to amend the tentative Order, if necessary, and allow changes to the tentative Order to be fully reviewed by the Regional Board and interested parties. To ensure that the Regional Board has the opportunity to fully study and consider written material, comments should be received in the Regional Board's office no later than 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, August 31, 2005. The final deadline for submittal of written comments, however, is September 7, 2005. Per Regional Board direction, written material submitted to the Regional Board office after the submittal deadline date will not be provided to the Regional Board. Also, it is not likely that written material will be accepted by the Regional Board on the day of the meeting.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please contact Mr. Paul J. Richter at (858) 627-3929, or by email at prichter@waterboards.ca.gov.

Respectfully,

MICHAEL P. McCANN Supervising Engineer

Enclosure: Tentative Order No. R9-2005-0139; NPDES Permit No. CA0109215 with attachments.

cc: (w/enclosure)

Ms. Joan Heredia (w/ enclosure)
Permitting Manager
Sempra Energy, Palomar Energy Project
101 Ash St, HQ 8B
San Diego, CA 92101

NPDES Regulatory Unit (w/ enclosure) SWRCB - DWQ P.O. Box 100 Sacramento, CA 95814-0100

Michael R. Welch (w/ enclosure) Consulting Engineer 2735 San Clemente Terrace San Diego, CA 92122

Kim Driver (w/ enclosure)
U.S. EPA Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street, WTR-5
San Francisco, CA 94105
Notablene: Send electronically only

Nancy Yoshikawa (w/enclosure) U.S. EPA Region 9 75 Hawthorne St. WTR-5 San Francisco, CA 94105

Glenn Leeks (w/ enclosure) County Department of Environmental Health 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite C San Diego, CA 92123

cc: (without enclosure)
John Richards
Staff Counsel
Office of Chief Counsel (OCC)
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 "I" Street, 22nd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Brian Bernados State Department of Health Services 1350 Front Street, Rm 2050 San Diego, CA 92101 Laura L. Peters Water Resources Control Engineer State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street, 16-53E Sacramento, CA 95814

Chuck Raysbrook Regional Manager California Dept. of Fish and Game South Coast Region 4949 Viewridge Drive San Diego, CA 92123

Judy Gibson U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 6010 Hidden Valley Rd. Carlsbad, CA 92009

Doug Gibson
Executive Director
San Elijo Lagoon Conservancy
P.O. Box 230634
Encinitas, CA 92023-0634

Edward Kimura Sierra Club, San Diego Chapter 6995 Camino Amero San Diego, California 92111

Mark Rodriguez 945 Chardonney Way Escondido, Ca. 92029